## The Wisdom of Group Decisions

Keynote Address at the Maine Farmers Market Convention by Craig Freshley, January 25, 2013

Various aspects of this slide were explained by Craig throughout the address



Craig asked small groups to discuss the most helpful and most harmful attitudes for group decisions and here's what they came up with

## There are many key ingredients

- Common goal and interests
- 2. Right-sized process suited for the product
- Neutral process among equals
- Helpful attitudes
- Individual behaviors

There is a right way to make group decisions

Group decisions done right bring more benefits than you can imagine.

Group decisions done right require humility

- Productivity
- Peace
- Efficiency
- •I don't know what's best.
- •I might not have the best answer.
- •I am open to learning from the group.
- •I trust the group wisdom. Good Group Decisions



- Helpful
  - **Positive**
  - Open mined
  - Informed
  - **Prompt**
  - Present
  - Attentive
  - Sense of humor
  - Concise

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- Harmful
  - **Negativity**
  - Argumentative
  - **Contrary**
  - Not committed
  - Defeatist
  - We tried that didn't work
  - My mind is already made up
  - Dismissive
  - Two-faced

